



WMTA GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE ADJUDICATORS

WMTA strives to maintain a high standard in their auditions. The grade the student receives reflects the ENTIRE performance. This includes: memorization where required, musicality, stylistic knowledge, technical facility, attention to detail, and presentation/stage presence, including attire and projected attitude. Below you will find more detailed instructions as to how we ask judges to encourage our students to continue to strive for those high standards.

In general, we ask that judges use sensible and motivating comments as well as constructive criticism to help the student learn from an audition experience. We want them to grow from the preparation for auditions as well as from a specific performance itself. The audition performance carries weight when students perform for other ears, for someone who will reinforce their (and their teacher's) efforts and offer another viable viewpoint to consider.

Summary of Performance Expectations

A "5" is a student whose performance is well-integrated, convincing, and secure in all technical, musical, and expressive elements demanded by an authentic performance of the composition. A "4" is a student whose performance may contain a few inaccuracies and insecurities, "slips" from which a good recovery is made, exhibits some projection of mood, style, and expression but is lacking in security, conviction, accuracy, and/or consistency throughout the piece. A "3" is a student whose performance does not have a cohesive flow, still contains a significant number of inaccuracies and insecurities, and is devoid of any elements of expression and style. A "2" is a student whose performance is deficient in almost all of the musical and expressive elements required by the composition. A "1" is for a student whose performance is deficient in pitch, rhythm, dynamics, and phrasing. This score is rarely given.